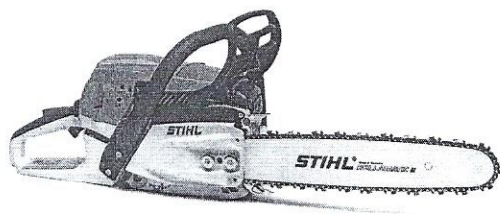


STIHL MS 261

Instruction Manual
Manual de Instrucciones



WARNING To reduce the risk of kickback injury use STIHL reduced kickback bar and STIHL low kickback chain as specified in this manual or other available low kickback components.

ADVERTENCIA Para reducir el riesgo de lesionarse como resultado de un sustaco, utilice la barra y la cadena de contrapeso reducida de la forma especificada en este manual o de otros componentes reducidos de contrapeso.

Read Instruction Manual thoroughly before use and follow all safety precautions – improper use can cause serious or fatal injury.

Antes de usar la máquina lea y siga todas las precauciones de seguridad dadas en el manual de instrucciones – el uso incorrecto puede causar lesiones graves o mortales.



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STIHL®

MS 261

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English

Original Instruction Manual

Please do not throw away paper, plastic or other components. They can be recycled.

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English

Guide to Using this Manual

This Instruction Manual refers to a STIHL chain saw, also called a machine in this Instruction Manual.

Pictograms

The meanings of the pictograms attached to or embossed on the machine are explained in this manual. Depending on the model concerned, the following pictograms may be on your machine.

- Fuel tank: fuel mixture of gasoline and engine oil
- Chain oil tank; chain oil
- Engaging and disengaging the STIHL Quickstop chain brake
- Direction of chain rotation
- Ematic; chain oil quantity control
- Tension the chain
- Intake air preheating for winter operation

- Intake air for summer operation
- Handle heating
- Operate decompression valve
- Operate manual fuel pump

Symbols in Text

Many operating and safety instructions are supported by illustrations. The individual steps or procedures described in the manual may be marked in different ways:

- A bullet marks a step or procedure. A description of a step or procedure that refers directly to an illustration may contain item numbers that appear in the illustration. Example:
 - Loosen the screw (1).
 - Lever (2) ...

In addition to the operating instructions, this manual may contain paragraphs that require your special attention. Such paragraphs are marked with the symbols and signal words described below:

- DANGER**
Indicates an imminent risk of severe or fatal injury.
- WARNING**
Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in severe or fatal injury.
- NOTICE**
Indicates a risk of property damage, including damage to the machine or its individual components.

Engineering Improvements

STIHL's philosophy is to continually improve all of its products. As a result, engineering changes and improvements are made from time to time. Therefore, some changes, modifications and improvements may not be covered in this manual. If the operating characteristics or the appearance of your machine differs from those described in this manual, please contact your STIHL dealer or the STIHL distributor for your area for assistance.

Safety Precautions and Working Techniques

- WARNING**
Because a chain saw is a high-speed, fast-cutting power tool, special safety precautions must be observed to reduce the risk of personal injury. It is important that you read, fully understand and observe the following safety precautions and warnings. Read the instruction manual and the safety instructions periodically. Careless or improper use may cause serious or fatal injury. Save the instruction manual for future reference.

- WARNING**
The use of this chain saw may be hazardous. The saw chain has many sharp cutters. If the cutters contact your flesh, they will cut you, even if the chain is not moving.
- WARNING**
Reactive forces, including kickback, can be dangerous. Pay special attention to the section on reactive forces. Have your STIHL dealer show you how to operate your chain saw. All safety precautions that are generally observed when working with an axe or a hand saw also apply to the operation of chain saws. Observe all applicable federal, state and local safety regulations, standards and ordinances. When using

a chain saw for logging purposes, for instance, refer to the OSHA regulations for "logging operations" at 29 Code of Federal Regulations 1910.266

- WARNING**
Do not lend or rent your chain saw without the instruction manual. Be sure that anyone using it understands the information contained in this manual. The use of noise emitting chain saws may be restricted to certain times by national, state or local regulations. Use your chain saw only for cutting wooden objects.
- WARNING**
Do not use it for other purposes, since misuse may result in personal injury or property damage, including damage to the chain saw.
- WARNING**
Minors should never be allowed to use this chain saw. Bystanders, especially children, and animals should not be allowed in the area where it is in use. Most of these safety precautions and warnings apply to the use of all STIHL chain saws. Different models may have different parts and controls. See the appropriate section of your instruction manual for a description of the controls and the function of the parts of your model.

- WARNING**
Always stop the engine and activate the QuickStop Chainbrake before transporting or carrying out any work on the chain saw. This avoids the risk of the engine starting unintentionally. STIHL recommends the use of genuine STIHL replacement parts. They are specifically designed to match your model and meet your performance requirements. Safe use of a chain saw involves
 - 1 the operator
 - 2 the chain saw
 - 3 the use of the chain saw.

THE OPERATOR

- Physical Condition**
You must be in good physical condition and mental health and not under the influence of any substance (drugs, alcohol, etc.) which might impair vision, dexterity or judgment. Do not operate this chain saw when you are fatigued.
- WARNING**
Be alert – if you get tired, take a break. Tiredness may result in loss of control. Working with any power tool can be strenuous. If you have any condition that might be aggravated by strenuous work, check with your doctor before operating this chain saw.

English

WARNING

Prolonged use of a chain saw (or other power tools) exposing the operator to vibrations may produce whitefinger disease (Raynaud's phenomenon) or carpal tunnel syndrome.

These conditions reduce the hand's ability to feel and regulate temperature, produce numbness and burning sensations and may cause nerve and circulation damage and tissue necrosis.

All factors which contribute to whitefinger disease are not known, but cold weather, smoking and diseases or physical conditions that affect blood vessels and blood transport, as well as high vibration levels and long periods of exposure to vibration are mentioned as factors in the development of whitefinger disease. In order to reduce the risk of whitefinger disease and carpal tunnel syndrome, please note the following:

- Most STIHL chain saws are available with an anti-vibration ("AV") system designed to reduce the transmission of vibrations created by the chain saw to the operator's hands. An AV system is recommended for those persons using chain saws on a regular or sustained basis.
- Wear gloves and keep your hands warm. Heated handles, which are available on some STIHL chain saws, are recommended for cold weather use.

- Keep the AV system well maintained. A chain saw with loose components or with damaged or worn AV elements will tend to have higher vibration levels.
- Keep the saw chain sharp and well maintained. A dull saw chain will increase cutting time, and pressing a dull saw chain through wood will increase the vibrations transmitted to your hands.
- Maintain a firm grip at all times, but do not squeeze the handles with constant, excessive pressure. Take frequent breaks.

All the above-mentioned precautions do not guarantee that you will not sustain whitefinger disease or carpal tunnel syndrome. Therefore, continual and regular users should closely monitor the condition of their hands and fingers. If any of the above symptoms appear, seek medical advice immediately.

WARNING

The ignition system of the STIHL unit produces an electromagnetic field of a very low intensity. This field may interfere with some pacemakers. To reduce the risk of serious or fatal injury, persons with a pacemaker should consult their physician and the pacemaker manufacturer before operating this chain saw.

Proper Clothing

WARNING

To reduce the risk of injury, the operator should wear proper protective apparel.



Clothing must be sturdy and snug-fitting, but allow complete freedom of movement. To reduce the risk of cut injuries, wear the type of overalls, long pants or chaps that contain pads of out-retardant material. Avoid loose-fitting jackets, scarfs, neckties, jewelry, flared or cuffed pants, unconfined long hair or anything that could become caught on branches, brush or the moving parts of the chain saw. Secure hair so it is above shoulder level.



Good footing is very important. Wear sturdy boots with nonslip soles. Steel-toed safety boots are recommended. Never wear sandals, flip-flops or go barefoot.



Always wear heavy-duty work gloves (e.g. made of leather or wear resistant material) when handling the chain saw and the cutting tool. Heavy-duty, nonslip gloves improve your grip and help to protect your hands.



To reduce the risk of injury to your eyes never operate your power tool unless wearing goggles or properly fitted protective glasses with adequate top and side protection complying with ANSI Z87.1+ (or your applicable national standard). If there is a risk of injury to your face, STIHL recommends that you also wear a face shield or face screen over your goggles or protective glasses.

Wear an approved safety hard hat to reduce the risk of injury to your head. Chain saw noise may damage your hearing. Wear sound barriers (ear plugs or ear muffs) to help protect your hearing. Continual and regular users should have their hearing checked regularly.

Be particularly alert and cautious when wearing hearing protection because your ability to hear warnings (shouts, alarms, etc.) is restricted.

THE CHAIN SAW

For illustrations and definitions of the chain saw parts see the chapter on "Main Parts."

WARNING

Never modify this chain saw in any way. Only attachments supplied by STIHL or expressly approved by STIHL for use with the specific STIHL model are authorized. Although certain unauthorized attachments are useable with STIHL chain saws, their use may, in fact, be extremely dangerous.

WARNING

Never operate your chain saw if it is damaged, improperly adjusted or maintained, or not completely or securely assembled.

If this chain saw is subjected to unusually high loads for which it was not designed (e.g. heavy impact or a fall), always check that it is in good condition before continuing work. Check in particular that the fuel system is tight (no leaks) and that the controls and safety devices are working properly. Do not continue operating this chain saw if it is damaged. In case of doubt, have it checked by your STIHL servicing dealer.

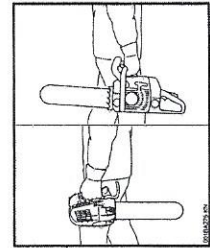
THE USE OF THE CHAIN SAW

Transporting the Chain Saw

WARNING

Always stop the engine before putting the chain saw down. Carrying a chain saw with the engine running may be extremely dangerous.

Accidental acceleration of the engine can cause the saw chain to rotate. Always engage the chain brake when taking more than a few steps.



By hand: When transporting your chain saw by hand, the engine must be shut off and the chain saw must be in the proper position, i.e., grip the top handle and place the muffler away from the body; the chain guard (scabbard) should be over the saw chain and guide bar, which should point backwards, away from the direction in which you are walking.

By vehicle: When transporting in a vehicle, keep saw chain and bar covered with the chain guard (scabbard). Properly secure your chain saw to prevent turnover, fuel spillage and damage to the chain saw.

Fuel

Your STIHL chain saw uses an oil-gasoline mixture for fuel (see the chapter on "Fuel" of your instruction manual).

WARNING

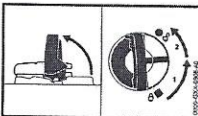
Gasoline is an extremely flammable fuel. If spilled and ignited by a spark or other ignition source, it can cause fire and serious burn injury or property damage. Use extreme caution when handling gasoline or fuel mix. Do not smoke or bring any fire or flame near the fuel or the chain saw. Note that combustible fuel vapor may escape from the fuel system.

Fueling Instructions

WARNING

Fuel your chain saw in well-ventilated areas, outdoors. Always shut off the engine and allow it to cool before refueling. Gasoline vapor pressure may build up inside the fuel tank depending on the fuel used, the weather conditions and the tank venting system.

In order to reduce the risk of burns and other personal injury from escaping gas vapor and fumes, remove the fuel filler cap on your chain saw carefully so as to allow any pressure build-up in the tank to release slowly.



Flip up the lever and slowly turn left (1) to the vent position of the cap at about 1/8 turn where the cap is held in place by the thread. Once the fumes have been relieved, turn (2) the cap further to the 1/4 turn position where the tool-less cap can be removed from the tank thread.

Never remove the fuel filler cap by quickly turning it to the full 1/4 open position without letting it vent out any vapor/pressure build-up at the 1/8 position.

Never remove the fuel filler cap while the engine is running.

Select bare ground for fueling and move at least 10 feet (3 m) from the fueling spot before starting the engine. Wipe off any spilled fuel before starting your chain saw.

WARNING

Check for fuel leakage while refueling and during operation. If fuel leakage is found, do not start or run the engine until the leak is fixed and any spilled fuel has been wiped away. Take care not to get fuel on your clothing. If this happens, change your clothing immediately.

Different models may be equipped with different fuel caps.

Toolless cap with grip

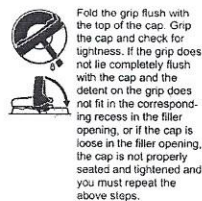
WARNING

In order to reduce the risk of fuel spillage and fire from an improperly tightened fuel cap, correctly position and tighten the fuel cap in the fuel tank opening.



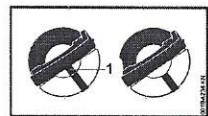
To do this with this STIHL cap, raise the grip on the top of the cap until it is upright at a 90° angle. Insert the cap in the fuel tank with the positioning mark on the grip of the cap and the "open" mark on the fuel tank opening lining up. Using the grip, press the cap down firmly while turning it clockwise as far as it will go

(approx. 1/4 turn). The positioning mark on the cap should now line up with the "closed" mark on the tank.



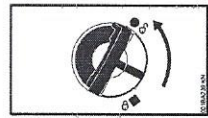
Misaligned, damaged or broken cap

- If the cap does not drop fully into the opening when the positioning marks line up and/or if the cap does not tighten properly when twisted, the base of the cap may be prematurely rotated (in relation to the top) to the closed position. Such misalignment can result from handling, cleaning or an improper attempt at tightening.



Left: Bottom of cap in closed position - inner mark (1) in line with outer mark.

Right: Bottom of cap in correct position for installation - inner mark is under the grip and not in line with the outer mark.



- To return the cap to the open position for installation, turn the cap (with the grip up) until it drops fully into the tank opening. Next, twist the cap counterclockwise as far as it will go (approx. 1/4 turn) - this will twist the base of the cap into the correct position for installation. Then, twist the cap clockwise, closing it normally.

- If your cap still does not tighten properly, it may be damaged or broken; immediately stop use of the unit and take it to your authorized STIHL dealer for repair.

See also the "Fueling" chapter in your instruction Manual for additional information.

Before Operation

Take off the chain guard (scabbard) and inspect the chain saw for proper condition and operation. (See the maintenance chart near the end of the instruction manual.)

WARNING

Always check your chain saw for proper condition and operation before starting, particularly the throttle trigger, throttle trigger lockout, stop switch and cutting attachment. The throttle trigger must move freely and always spring back to the idle position. The Master Control Lever / stop switch must move easily to STOP, 0 or 1. Never attempt to modify the controls or safety devices.

WARNING

Check fuel system for leaks, especially the visible parts, e.g., filler cap, hose connections, manual fuel pump (only for chain saws equipped with a manual fuel pump). Do not start the engine if there are leaks or damage - risk of fire! Have the chain saw repaired by a STIHL servicing dealer before using it.

WARNING

Check that the spark plug boot is securely mounted on the spark plug - a loose boot may cause arcing that could ignite combustible fumes and cause a fire.

For proper assembly of the bar and saw chain follow the procedure described in the chapter "Mounting the Bar and Chain" of your instruction manual. STIHL Oromatic saw chain, guide bar and sprocket must match each other in gauge and pitch. Before replacing any bar and chain, see the chapter entitled "Specifications" in the instruction manual and the chapter "Reactive Forces including Kickback".

Since longer bars add weight and may be more difficult to control, select the shortest bar that will meet your cutting needs.

WARNING

Proper tension of the chain is extremely important. In order to avoid improper setting, the tensioning procedure must be followed as described in your manual. Always make sure the hexagonal nut(s) for the sprocket cover is (are) tightened securely after tensioning the saw chain in order to secure the bar. Never start the chain saw with the sprocket cover loose. Check chain tension once more after having tightened the nut(s) and thereafter at regular intervals (whenever the saw is shut off). If the saw chain becomes loose while cutting, shut off the engine and then tighten. Never try to adjust the saw chain while the engine is running!

WARNING

After adjusting a saw chain, start the chain saw, let the engine run for a while, then switch engine off and recheck saw chain tension. Proper saw chain tension is very important at all times.

Keep the handles clean and dry at all times; it is particularly important to keep them free of moisture, pitch, oil, fuel mix, grease or resin in order for you to maintain a firm grip and properly control your chain saw.

WARNING

Be sure that the guide bar and saw chain are clear of you and all other obstructions and objects, including the ground. If the upper quadrant of the tip of the bar touches any object, it may cause kickback to occur (see section on reactive forces). Never attempt to start the chain saw when the guide bar is in a cut or kerf.

For specific starting instructions, see the appropriate section of your instruction manual.

Starting

WARNING

To reduce the risk of fire and burn injuries, start the engine at least 10 feet (3-m) from the fueling spot, outdoors only.

Start and operate your chain saw without assistance. For specific starting instructions, see the appropriate section of the instruction manual. Proper starting methods reduce the risk of injury.

WARNING

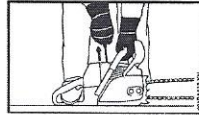
To reduce the risk of injury from saw chain contact and / or reactive forces, the chain brake must be engaged when starting the chain saw. If your chain saw is equipped with the Quickstop Plus chain brake system, it is not sufficient to

engage that brake only for starting, because the saw chain may begin to rotate at high speed when the throttle trigger lockout is depressed (releasing the brake) in order to blip the throttle trigger after starting.

WARNING

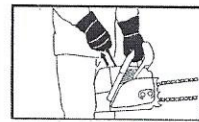
Do not drop start. This method is very dangerous because you may lose control of the chain saw.

There are two recommended methods for starting your chain saw.



With the first recommended method, the chain saw is started on the ground. Make sure the chain brake is engaged (see "Chain Brake" chapter in your instruction manual) and place the chain saw on firm ground or other solid surface in an open area. Maintain good balance and secure footing.

Grip the front handle of the saw firmly with your left hand and press down. For saws with a rear handle level with the ground, put the toe of your right foot into the rear handle and press down. With your right hand pull the starter grip slowly until you feel a definite resistance and then give it a brisk, strong pull.



The second recommended method for starting your chain saw allows you to start the saw without placing it on the ground. Make sure the chain brake is engaged, grip the front handle of the chain saw firmly with your left hand. Keep your arm on the front handle in a locked (straight) position. Hold the rear handle of the saw lightly between your legs just above the knees. Maintain good balance and secure footing. Pull the starting grip slowly with your right hand until you feel a definite resistance and then give it a brisk, strong pull.

WARNING

Be sure that the guide bar and saw chain are clear of you and all other obstructions and objects, including the ground. When the engine is started, the engine speed will be fast enough for the clutch to engage the sprocket and, if the chain brake is not activated, turn the saw chain. If the upper quadrant of the tip of the bar touches any object, it may cause kickback to occur (see section on reactive forces). To reduce this risk, always engage the chain brake before starting. Never attempt to start the chain saw when the guide bar is in a cut or kerf.

Once the engine has started, immediately blip the throttle trigger, which should release the Master Control lever to the run position and allow the engine to slow down to idle.

Always disengage chain brake before accelerating engine and before starting cutting work. The only exception to this rule is when you check operation of the chain brake. High revs with the chain brake engaged (chain locked) will quickly damage the powerhead and chain drive (clutch, chain brake).

WARNING

When you pull the starter grip, do not wrap the starter rope around your hand. Do not let the grip snap back, but guide the starter rope to rewind it properly. Failure to follow this procedure may result in injury to your hand or fingers and may damage the starter mechanism.

Important Adjustments

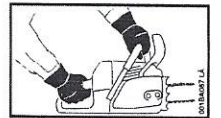
WARNING

To reduce the risk of personal injury from loss of control and / or contact with the running cutting tool, do not use your chain saw with incorrect idle adjustment. At correct idle speed, the cutting tool should not move. For directions on how to adjust idle speed, see the appropriate section of your instruction manual.

If you cannot set the correct idle speed, have your STIHL dealer check your chain saw and make proper adjustments and repairs.

Holding and Controlling the Chain Saw

Always hold the chain saw firmly with both hands when the engine is running. Place your left hand on the front handle bar and your right hand on the rear handle and throttle trigger.



Left-handers should follow these instructions too. Wrap your fingers tightly around the handles, keeping the handles cradled between your thumb and forefinger. With your hands in this position, you can best oppose and absorb the push, pull and kickback forces of your saw without losing control (see section on reactive forces).

WARNING



To reduce the risk of serious or fatal injury to the operator or bystanders from loss of control, never use the chain saw with one hand. It is more difficult for you to control reactive forces and to prevent the bar and chain from skidding or bouncing along the limb or log.

WARNING

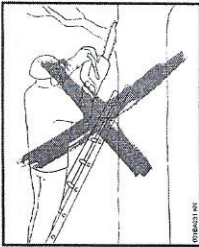
To reduce the risk of cut injuries, keep hands and feet away from the cutting tool. Never touch a moving cutting tool with your hand or any other part of your body.

WARNING

Keep proper footing and balance at all times. Special care must be taken in slippery conditions (wet ground, snow) and in difficult, overgrown terrain. Be extremely cautious when working on slopes or uneven ground. Watch for hidden obstacles such as tree stumps, roots, rocks, holes and ditches to avoid stumbling. There is increased danger of slipping on freshly debarked logs. For better footing, clear away fallen branches, scrub and cuttings. Use extreme caution when cutting small-size brush, branches and saplings because slender material may catch the saw chain and be whipped toward you or pull you off balance.

WARNING

Take extreme care in wet and freezing weather (rain, snow, ice). Put off the work when the weather is windy, stormy or rainfall is heavy.



WARNING

To reduce the risk of injury from loss of control, never work on a ladder or any other insecure support. Never hold the machine above shoulder height. Do not overreach.



Position the chain saw in such a way that your body is clear of the cutting attachment whenever the engine is running. Stand to the left of cut while bucking.

Never put pressure on the chain saw when reaching the end of a cut. The pressure may cause the bar and rotating saw chain to pop out of the cut or kerf, go out of control and strike the operator or some other object. If the rotating saw chain strikes some other object, a reactive force may cause the moving saw chain to strike the operator. STIHL recommends that first-time users should cut logs on a sawhorse - see "Cutting small logs."

Working Conditions

Operate and start your chain saw only outdoors in a well-ventilated area. Operate it under good visibility and daylight conditions only. Work carefully.

WARNING

Your chain saw is a one-person machine. Do not allow other persons in the general work area, even when starting. Stop the engine immediately if you are approached.

WARNING

Even though bystanders should be kept away from the running chain saw, never work alone. Keep within calling distance of others in case help is needed.

WARNING

To reduce the risk of injury to bystanders and damage to property, never let your chain saw run unattended. When it is not in use (e.g. during a work break), shut it off and make sure that unauthorized persons do not use it.

WARNING



As soon as the engine is running, this product generates toxic exhaust fumes containing chemicals, such as unburned hydrocarbons (including benzene) and carbon monoxide, that are known to cause respiratory problems, cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm. Some of the gases (e.g. carbon monoxide) may be colorless and odorless. To reduce the risk of serious or fatal injury/illness from inhaling toxic fumes, never run the machine indoors or in poorly ventilated locations. If exhaust fumes become concentrated due to insufficient ventilation, clear obstructions from work area to permit proper ventilation before proceeding and/or take frequent breaks to allow fumes to dissipate before they become concentrated.

WARNING

Operate your chain saw so that it produces a minimum of noise and emissions - do not run engine unnecessarily and accelerate the engine only for cutting.

WARNING

Use of this chain saw (including sharpening the saw chain) can also generate dust, mist and fumes containing chemicals that are known to cause respiratory problems, cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm. If you are unfamiliar with the risks associated with the particular dust, mist or fume at issue, consult your employer, governmental agencies such as OSHA and NIOSH and other sources on hazardous materials, California and some other authorities, for instance, have published lists of substances known to cause cancer, reproductive toxicity, etc.

WARNING

Inhalation of certain dusts, especially organic dusts such as mold or pollen, can cause susceptible persons to have an allergic or asthmatic reaction. Substantial or repeated inhalation of dust and other airborne contaminants, in particular those with a smaller particle size, may cause respiratory or other illnesses. This includes wood dust, especially from hardwoods, but also from some softwoods such as Western Red Cedar. Control dust (such as saw dust), mists (such as oil mist from chain lubrication) and engine fumes at the source where possible. Use good work practices, such as always cutting with a properly sharpened saw chain (which produces wood chips rather than fine dust) and operating the unit so that the wind or operating process directs any dust raised by the chain saw away from the operator. Follow the recommendations of

EPA/OSHA/NIOSH and occupational and trade associations with respect to dust ("particulate matter"). When the inhalation of dust cannot be substantially controlled, i.e., kept at or near the ambient (background) level, the operator and any bystanders should wear a respirator approved by NIOSH / MSHA for the type of dust encountered.

WARNING

Breathing asbestos dust is dangerous and can cause severe or fatal injury, respiratory illness or cancer. The use and disposal of asbestos-containing products have been strictly regulated by OSHA and the Environmental Protection Agency. Do not use your chain saw to cut or disturb asbestos or asbestos-containing products. If you have any reason to believe that you might be cutting asbestos, immediately stop cutting and contact your employer or a local OSHA representative.

Operating Instructions

WARNING

Do not operate your chain saw with the starting throttle lock engaged. Cutting with the starting throttle lock engaged does not permit the operator proper control of the chain saw or saw chain speed. Begin and continue cutting with the saw at full throttle, engage the bumper spike firmly in the wood (if possible) and then continue cutting. Always work with the bumper spike so that you have better control of the saw. If you work without the bumper spike the chain saw may pull you forwards suddenly.

WARNING

Never touch a saw chain with your hand or any part of your body when the engine is running, even when the chain is not rotating.

In the event of an emergency, switch off the engine immediately – move the Master Control Lever to STOP, 0 or O.

WARNING

Always stop the engine before putting the chain saw down.

WARNING

The saw chain continues to move for a short period after the throttle trigger is released (flywheel effect).

Accelerating the engine while the saw chain is blocked increases the load and will cause the clutch to slip continuously. This may occur if the throttle is depressed for more than a few seconds when the saw chain is pinched in the cut or the chain brake is engaged. It can result in overheating and damage to important components (e.g. clutch, polymer housing components) – which can then increase the risk of injury, e.g. from the saw chain moving while the engine is idling.

WARNING

Your chain saw is equipped with a chain catcher. It is designed to reduce the risk of personal injury in the event of a thrown or broken saw chain. From time to time, the catcher may be damaged or

removed. To reduce the risk of personal injury, do not operate a chain saw with a damaged or missing chain catcher.

WARNING

Inspect antivibration elements periodically. Replace damaged, broken or excessively worn antivibration elements immediately, since they may result in loss of control of the saw. A "sponginess" in the feel of the saw, increased vibration or increased "bottoming" during normal operation may indicate damage, breakage or excessive wear. Antivibration elements should always be replaced in sets. If you have any questions as to whether the antivibration elements should be replaced, consult your STIHL servicing dealer.

If this chain saw is subjected to unusually high loads for which it was not designed (e.g. heavy impact or a fall), always check that it is in good condition before continuing work. Check in particular that the fuel system is tight (no leaks) and that the controls and safety devices are working properly. Do not continue operating this chain saw if it is damaged. In case of doubt, have it checked by your STIHL servicing dealer.

Your chain saw is not designed for prying or shoveling away limbs, roots or other objects. Such use could damage the cutting attachment or AV system.

WARNING

When sawing, make sure that the saw chain does not touch any foreign materials such as rocks, fences, nails

and the like. Such objects may be flung off, damage the saw chain or cause the chain saw to kickback.

WARNING

If the rotating saw chain strikes a rock or other hard object, sparks may be created, which can ignite flammable materials under certain circumstances. Flammable materials can include dry vegetation and brush, particularly when weather conditions are hot and dry. Do not use your chain saw around flammable materials or around dry vegetation or brush when there is a risk of fire or wildfire. Contact your local fire authorities or the U.S. Forestry Service if you have any question about whether vegetation and weather conditions are suitable for the use of a chain saw.

WARNING

Take special care when cutting shattered wood because of the risk of injury from splinters being caught and thrown in your direction.

WARNING

Never modify your muffler. Any modification could cause an increase in heat radiation, sparks or sound level, thereby increasing the risk of fire, burn injury or hearing loss. You may also permanently damage the engine. Have your muffler serviced and repaired by your STIHL servicing dealer only.

WARNING

The muffler and other parts of the engine (e.g. fins of the cylinder, spark plug) become hot during operation and remain

hot for a while after stopping the engine. To reduce risk of burns, do not touch the muffler and other parts while they are hot. Keep the area around the muffler clean. Remove excess lubricant and all debris such as pine needles, branches or leaves. Let the engine cool down sitting on concrete, metal, bare ground or solid wood (e.g. the trunk of a felled tree) away from any combustible substances.

WARNING

An improperly mounted or damaged cylinder housing or a damaged/deformed muffler shell may interfere with the cooling process of the muffler. To reduce the risk of fire or burn injury, do not continue work with a damaged or improperly mounted cylinder housing or a damaged/deformed muffler shell. Your muffler is furnished with a spark arresting screen designed to reduce the risk of fire from the emission of hot particles. Never operate your unit with a missing or damaged spark arresting screen. If your gas/oil mix ratio is correct (i.e., not too rich), this screen will normally stay clean as a result of the heat from the muffler and need no service or maintenance. If you suspect a clogged screen, have your muffler maintained by a STIHL servicing dealer. Some state or federal laws or regulations may require a properly maintained spark arrester for certain uses. See the "Maintenance, Repair and Storage" section of these Safety Precautions. Remember that the risk of a brush or forest fire is greater in hot or dry conditions.

WARNING

Some STIHL chain saws are equipped with a catalytic converter, which is designed to reduce the exhaust emissions of the engine by a chemical process in the muffler. Due to this process, the muffler does not cool down as rapidly as conventional mufflers when the engine returns to idle or is shut off. To reduce the risk of fire and burn injuries when using a catalytic converter, always set your chain saw down in the upright position and never locate it where the muffler is near dry brush, grass, wood chips or other combustible materials while it is still hot.

WARNING

Do not rely on the chain saw's insulation against electric shock. To reduce the risk of electrocution, never operate this chain saw in the vicinity of any wires or cables (power, etc.) which may be carrying electric current. To reduce risk of electrocution, take extra precautions when cutting near power lines. Have the power switched off before starting cutting work in the immediate vicinity of power lines.

REACTIVE FORCES INCLUDING KICKBACK**WARNING**

Reactive forces may occur any time the chain is rotating. Reactive forces can cause serious personal injury.



The powerful force used to cut wood can be reversed and work against the operator. If the rotating saw chain is suddenly and significantly slowed or

stopped by contact with any solid object such as a log or branch or is pinched, the reactive forces may occur instantly. These reactive forces may result in loss of control, which, in turn, may cause serious or fatal injury. An understanding of the causes of these reactive forces may help you avoid the element of surprise and loss of control. Surprise contributes to accidents.

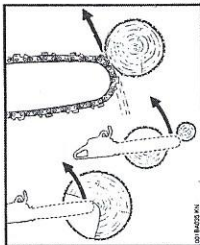
The most common reactive forces are:

- kickback,
- pushback,
- pull-in.

WARNING**Kickback:**

Kickback may occur when the moving saw chain near the upper quadrant of the bar nose contacts a solid object or is pinched.

When this occurs, the energy driving the saw chain can create a force that moves the chain saw in a direction opposite to the saw chain movement at the point where the saw chain is slowed or stopped. This may fling the bar up and back in a lightning fast reaction mainly in the plane of the bar and can cause severe or fatal injury to the operator.



Kickback may occur, for example, when the saw chain near the upper quadrant of the bar nose contacts the wood or is pinched during limbing or when it is incorrectly used to begin a plunge or boring cut.

The greater the force of the kickback reaction, the more difficult it becomes for the operator to control the chain saw. Many factors influence the occurrence and force of the kickback reaction. These include saw chain speed, the speed at which the bar and saw chain contact the object, the angle of contact, the condition of the saw chain and other factors.

The type of bar and saw chain you use is an important factor in the occurrence and force of the kickback reaction. Some STIHL bar and saw chain types are designed to reduce kickback forces. STIHL recommends the use of reduced kickback bars and low kickback chains.

Chain Saw Kickback Standard

The following standard apply with respect to kickback:

- § 5.11 of ANSI B175.1-2000

This standard, in the following referred to as "the chain saw kickback standard" sets certain performance and design criteria related to chain saw kickback.

To comply with the chain saw kickback standard:

- a) Chain saws with a displacement of less than 3.8 cubic inches (62 cm³)
 - must, in their original condition, meet a 45° computer derived kickback angle when equipped with certain cutting attachments,
 - and must be equipped with at least two devices to reduce the risk of kickback injury, such as a chain brake, low kickback saw chain, reduced kickback bar, etc.
- b) Chain saws with a displacement of 3.8 cubic inches (62 cm³) and above
 - must be equipped with at least one device designed to reduce the risk of kickback injury, such as a chain brake, low kickback saw chain, reduced kickback bar, etc.

The computer derived angles for chain saws below 3.8 cubic inches (62 cm³) displacement are measured by applying a computer program to test results from a kickback test machine.

WARNING

The computer derived angles of the chain saw kickback standard may bear no relationship to actual kickback bar rotation angles that may occur in real life cutting situations.

In addition, features designed to reduce kickback injuries may lose some of their effectiveness when they are no longer in their original condition, especially if they have been improperly maintained. Compliance with the chain saw kickback standard does not automatically mean that in a real life kickback the bar and saw chain will rotate at most 45°.

WARNING

In order for chain saws below 3.8 cubic inches (62 cm³) displacement to comply with the computer derived kickback angle requirements of the chain saw kickback standard use only the following cutting attachments:

- bar and saw chain combinations listed as complying in the "Specifications" section of the instruction manual or
- other replacement bar and saw chain combinations marked in accordance with the standard for use on the chain saw or
- replacement saw chain designated "low kickback saw chain."

See the section on "Low Kickback Saw Chain and Reduced Kickback Bars."

Devices for Reducing the Risk of Kickback Injury

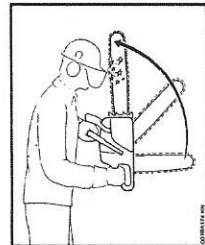
STIHL recommends the use of green labeled reduced kickback bars and low kickback saw chains on your chain saw equipped with a Stihl Quickstop chain brake.

WARNING

To reduce the risk of injury, never use a chain saw if the chain brake does not function properly. Take the chain saw to your local STIHL servicing dealer. Do not use the chain saw until the problem has been rectified.

STIHL Quickstop Chain Brake

STIHL has developed a saw chain stopping system designed to reduce the risk of injury in certain kickback situations. It is called a Quickstop chain brake.



There are two mechanisms for activating the chain brake if it is in a properly maintained condition:

- manual activation: If a kickback occurs, the chain saw moves upwards towards the user in a rotating motion around the front handle. The brake is designed to engage if the left hand contacts the front guard, which is the activation lever for the brake, and pushes it forward.
- inertia activation: All STIHL chain saws are equipped with an inertia Quickstop chain brake. If the kickback impulse is strong enough, this alone is sufficient to engage the brake even without contacting the front hand guard.

WARNING

Never operate your chain saw without a front hand guard. In a kickback situation this guard helps protect your left hand and other parts of your body. In addition, removal of the hand guard on a chain saw equipped with a Quickstop chain brake will disable the activation mechanism of the chain brake.

WARNING

No Quickstop or other chain brake device prevents kickback. These devices are designed to reduce the risk of kickback injury, if activated, in certain kickback situations. In order for the Quickstop to reduce the risk of kickback injury, it must be properly maintained and in good working order. See the chapter of your instruction manual entitled "Chain Brake" and the section "Maintenance, Repair and Storing" at the end of these Safety Precautions. In addition, there must be enough distance between the bar and the operator to ensure that the Quickstop has sufficient time to activate and stop the chain before potential contact with the operator.

WARNING

An improperly maintained chain brake may increase the time needed to stop the saw chain after activation, or may not activate at all.

WARNING

Never run the chain saw above idle speed for more than 3 seconds when the chain brake is engaged or when the saw

chain is pinched or otherwise caught in the cut. Clutch slippage can cause excessive heat, leading to severe damage of the motor housing, clutch and other component and may interfere with the operation of the chain brake. If clutch slippage in excess of 3 seconds has occurred, allow the motor housing to cool before proceeding and check the operation of your chain brake as described in the chapter entitled "Chain Brake" of your instruction manual. Also make sure that the saw chain is not turning at idle speed (see above at "Important Adjustments").

Low Kickback Saw Chain and Reduced Kickback Bars

STIHL offers a variety of bars and saw chains. STIHL reduced kickback bars and low kickback saw chains are designed to reduce the risk of kickback injury. Other saw chains are designed to achieve higher cutting performance or sharpening ease, but in turn are more prone to kickback.

STIHL has developed a color code system to help you identify the STIHL reduced kickback bars and low kickback saw chains. Cutting attachments with green warning labels on the packaging are designed to reduce the risk of kickback injury. The matching of green marked or labeled chain saws under 3.8 cubic inches (62 cm³) displacement with green labeled bars and green labeled saw chains gives compliance with the computerized kickback angle requirements of the chain saw standard when the products are in their original condition. Products with yellow labels are for users with extraordinary cutting

needs, having experience and specialized training for dealing with kickback.

STIHL recommends the use of its green labeled reduced kickback bars, green labeled low kickback saw chains and a chain saw equipped with a STIHL Quickstop chain brake for both experienced and inexperienced chain saw users.

Please ask your STIHL dealer to properly match your chain saw with the appropriate bar / saw chain combination to reduce the risk of kickback injury. Green labeled bars and saw chains are recommended for all chain saws.

WARNING

Use of other, non-listed bar / saw chain combinations may increase kickback forces and the risk of kickback injury. New bar / saw chain combinations may be developed after publication of this literature, which will, in combination with certain chain saws, comply with the chain saw standard as well. Check with your STIHL dealer for such combinations.

WARNING

Reduced kickback bars and low kickback saw chains do not prevent kickback, but they are designed to reduce the risk of kickback injury. They are available from your STIHL dealer.

WARNING

Even if your saw is equipped with a Quickstop, a reduced kickback bar and / or low kickback saw chain, this does not

eliminate the risk of injury by kickback. Therefore, always observe all safety precautions to avoid kickback situations.

Low Kickback Saw Chain

Some types of saw chains have specially designed components to reduce the force of nose contact kickback. STIHL has developed low kickback saw chain for your chain saw. A "low kickback saw chain" is a saw chain that has met the kickback performance requirements of ANSI B175.1-2000 when tested according to the provisions specified in ANSI B175.1-2000.

WARNING

There are potential chain saw and bar combinations with which low kickback saw chains can be used which have not been specifically certified to comply with the 45° computer derived kickback angle of the chain saw standard. Some low kickback saw chains have not been tested with all chain saw and bar combinations.

WARNING

A blunt or incorrectly sharpened saw chain may reduce or negate the effects of the design features intended to reduce kickback energy. Improper lowering or sharpening of the depth gauges as well as changing the shape of the cutters may increase the risk and the energy of kickback. Always cut with a properly sharpened saw chain.

Reduced Kickback Bars

STIHL green labeled reduced kickback bars are designed to reduce the risk of kickback injury when used with STIHL green labeled low kickback saw chains.

WARNING

When used with other, more aggressive saw chains, these bars may be less effective in reducing kickback.

WARNING

For a properly balanced saw and in order to comply with the chain saw standard, use only bar lengths listed in the specifications chapter of the instruction manual for your chain saw.

To avoid kickback

The best protection from personal injury that may result from kickback is to avoid kickback situations:

1. Hold the chain saw firmly with both hands and maintain a secure grip. Don't let go.
2. Be aware of the location of the guide bar nose at all times.
3. Never let the nose of the guide bar contact any object. Do not cut limbs with the nose of the guide bar. Be especially careful near wire fences and when cutting small, tough limbs, small size brush and saplings which may easily catch the saw chain.
4. Don't overreach.
5. Don't cut above shoulder height.
6. Begin cutting and continue at full throttle.

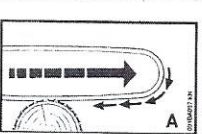
7. Cut only one log at a time.
8. Use extreme caution when reentering a previous cut.
9. Do not attempt to plunge cut if you are not experienced with these cutting techniques.
10. Be alert for shifting of the log or other forces that may cause the cut to close and pinch the saw chain.
11. Maintain saw chain properly. Cut with a correctly sharpened, properly tensioned saw chain at all times.
12. Stand to the side of the cutting path of the chain saw.

Bow Guides

WARNING

Do not mount a bow guide on any STIHL chain saw. Any chain saw equipped with a bow guide is potentially very dangerous. The risk of kickback is increased with a bow guide because of the increased kickback contact area. Low kickback saw chain will not significantly reduce the risk of kickback injury when used on a bow guide.

A = Pull-in



Pull-in occurs when the saw chain on the bottom of the bar is suddenly stopped when it is pinched, caught or encounters a foreign object in the wood. The reaction of the saw chain pulls the chain saw forward and may cause the operator to lose control.

Pull-in frequently occurs when the bumper spike of the chain saw is not held securely against the tree or limb and when the saw chain is not rotating at full speed before it contacts the wood.

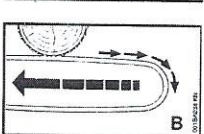
WARNING

Use extreme caution when cutting small size brush and saplings which may easily catch the saw chain, be whipped towards you or pull you off balance.

To avoid pull-in

1. Always start a cut with the saw chain rotating at full speed and the bumper spike in contact with the wood.
2. The risk of pull-in may also be reduced by using wedges to open the kerf or cut.

B = Pushback



Pushback occurs when the saw chain on the top of the bar is suddenly stopped when it is pinched, caught or encounters a foreign object in the wood. The reaction of the saw chain may drive the chain saw rapidly straight back toward the operator and may cause loss of chain saw control, which, in turn, may cause serious or fatal injury. Pushback frequently occurs when the top of the bar is used for cutting.

To avoid pushback

1. Be alert to forces or situations that may cause material to pinch the top of the saw chain.
2. Do not cut more than one log at a time.
3. Do not twist the chain saw when withdrawing the bar from a plunge cut or underbuck cut because the saw chain can pinch.

Limbing

Limbing is removing the branches from a fallen tree.

WARNING

There is an extreme danger of kickback during the limbing operation. Do not work with the nose of the bar. Be extremely cautious and avoid contacting the log or other limbs with the nose of the guide bar.

Do not stand on a log while limbing it - you may slip or the log may roll.

Start limbing by leaving the lower limbs to support the log off the ground. When underbucking freely hanging limbs, a pinch may result or the limbs may fall, causing loss of control. If a pinch occurs, stop the engine and remove the saw by lifting the limb.

WARNING

Be extremely cautious when cutting limbs or logs under tension (spring poles). The limbs or logs could spring back toward the operator and cause loss of control of the saw and severe or fatal injury to the operator.

Bucking

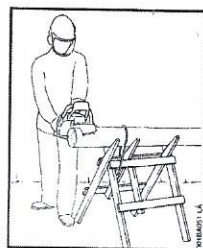


Bucking is cutting a log into sections.

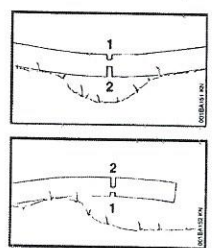
WARNING

When bucking, do not stand on the log. Make sure the log will not roll downhill. If on a slope, stand on the uphill side of the log. Watch out for rolling logs.

Cut only one log at a time. Shattered wood should be cut very carefully. Sharp splinters of wood may be caught and flung in the direction of the operator of the saw.



When cutting small logs, place log through "V"-shaped supports on top of a sawhorse. Never permit another person to hold the log. Never hold the log with your leg or foot.



Logs under strain: Risk of pinching! Always start relieving cut (1) at compression side. Then make bucking cut (2) at tension side. If the saw pinches, stop the engine and remove it from the log.

Only properly trained professionals should work in an area where the logs, limbs and roots are tangled. Working in "blow down" areas is extremely hazardous. Drag the logs into a clear area before cutting. Pull out exposed and cleared logs first.

Felling

Felling is cutting down a tree. Before felling a tree, consider carefully all conditions which may affect the direction of fall.

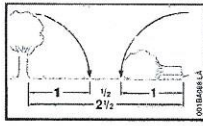
WARNING

There are a number of factors that may affect and change the intended direction of fall, e.g. wind direction and speed, lean of tree, surrounding trees and obstacles, sloping ground, one-sided limb structure, wood structure, decay, snow load, etc. To reduce the risk of severe or fatal injury to yourself or others, look for these conditions prior to beginning the cut, and be alert for a change in direction while the tree is falling.

WARNING

Always observe the general condition of the tree. Inexperienced users should never attempt to cut trees that are decayed or rotted inside or that are leaning or otherwise under tension. There is an increased risk that such trees could snap or split while being cut and cause serious or fatal injury to the operator or bystanders. Also look for broken or dead branches which could vibrate loose and fall on the operator. When felling on a slope, the operator should stand on the uphill side if possible.

Felling Instructions



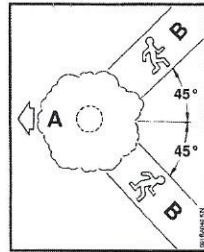
When felling, maintain a distance of at least 2 1/2 tree lengths from the nearest person.

When felling in the vicinity of roads, railways and power lines, etc., take extra precautions. Inform the police, utility company or railway authority before beginning to cut.

WARNING

The noise of your engine may drown any warning call.

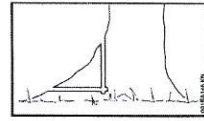
Escape Path



First clear the tree base and work area from interfering limbs and brush and clean its lower portion with an ax.

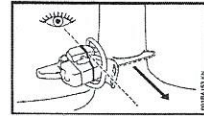
Then, establish two paths of escape (B) and remove all obstacles. These paths should be generally opposite to the planned direction of the fall of the tree (A) and about at a 45° angle. Place all tools and equipment a safe distance away from the tree, but not on the escape paths.

Buttress Roots



If the tree has large buttress roots, cut into the largest buttress vertically first (horizontally next) and remove the resulting piece.

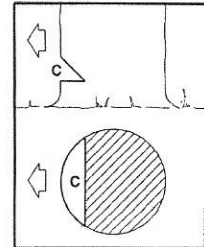
Gunning Sight



When making the felling notch, use the gunning sight on the shroud and housing to check the desired direction of fall.

Position the saw so that the gunning sight points exactly in the direction you want the tree to fall.

Conventional Cut

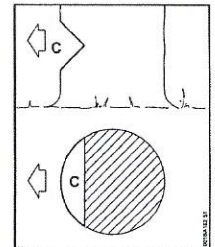


Felling notch (C) – determines the direction of the fall

For a conventional cut:

- Properly place felling notch perpendicular to the line of fall, close to the ground.
- Cut down at approx. 45° angle to a depth of about 1/5 to 1/4 of the trunk diameter.
- Make second cut horizontal.
- Remove resulting 45° piece.

Open-face Technique

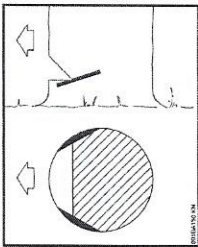


Felling notch (C) – determines the direction of the fall

For an open-face cut:

- Properly place felling notch perpendicular to the line of fall, close to the ground.
- Cut down at approx. 50° angle to a depth of approx. 1/5 to 1/4 of the trunk diameter.
- Make second cut from below at approx. 40 degree angle.
- Remove resulting 90° piece.

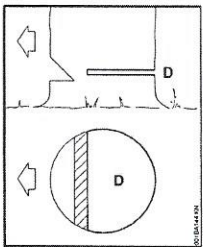
Making Sapwood Cuts



- For medium sized or larger trees, make cuts at both sides of the trunk, at same height as subsequent felling cut.
- Cut to no more than width of guide bar.

This is especially important in softwood in summer – it helps prevent sapwood splintering when the tree falls.

D = Felling Cut



Conventional and open-face technique:

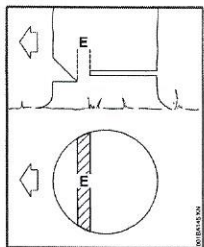
- Begin 1 to 2 inches (2,5 to 5 cm) higher than center of felling notch.
- Cut horizontally towards the felling notch.
- Leave approx. 1/10 of diameter uncut. This is the hinge.
- Do not cut through the hinge – you could lose control of the direction of the fall.

Drive wedges into the felling cut where necessary to control the fall.

WARNING

If the tip of the bar contacts a wedge, it may cause kickback. Wedges should be of wood or plastic – never steel, which can damage the chain.

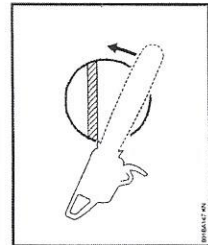
E = Hinge



- Helps control the falling tree.
- Do not cut through the hinge – you could lose control of the direction of the fall.

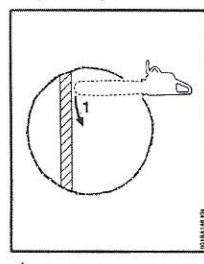
Felling Cut for Small Diameter Trees:

Simple Fan Cut



Engage the bumper spikes of the chain saw directly behind the location of the intended hinge and pivot the saw around this point only as far as the hinge. The bumper spike rolls against the trunk.

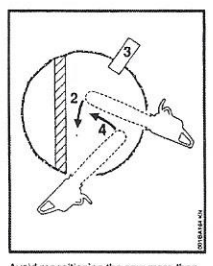
Felling Cut for Large Diameter Trees



WARNING
Felling a tree that has a diameter greater than the length of the guide bar requires use of either the sectioning felling cut or plunge-cut method. These methods are extremely dangerous because they involve the use of the nose of the guide bar and can result in kickback. Only properly trained professionals should attempt these techniques.

Sectioning Method

For the sectioning method make the first part of the felling cut with the guide bar fanning in toward the hinge. Then, using the bumper spike as a pivot, reposition the saw for the next cut.

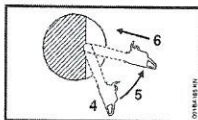


Avoid repositioning the saw more than necessary. When repositioning for the next cut, keep the guide bar fully engaged in the kerf to keep the felling cut straight. If the saw begins to pinch, insert a wedge to open the cut. On the last cut, do not cut the hinge.

Plunge-cut Method

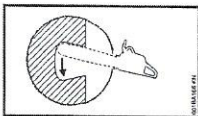
Timber having a diameter more than twice the length of the guide bar requires the use of the plunge-cut method before making the felling cut.

First, cut a large, wide felling notch. Make a plunge cut in the center of the notch.



The plunge cut is made with the guide bar nose. Begin the plunge cut by applying the lower portion of the guide bar nose to the tree at an angle. Cut until the depth of the kerf is about the same as the width of the guide bar. Next, align the saw in the direction in which the recess is to be cut.

With the saw at full throttle, insert the guide bar in the trunk.



Enlarge the plunge cut as shown in the illustration.

WARNING

There is an extreme danger of kickback at this point. Extra caution must be taken to maintain control of the saw. To make the felling cut, follow the sectioning method described previously.

If you are inexperienced with a chain saw, plunge-cutting should not be attempted. Seek the help of a professional.

WARNING

In order to reduce the risk of personal injury, never stand directly behind the tree when it is about to fall, since part of the trunk may split and come back towards the operator (barber-chairing), or the tree may jump backwards off the stump. Always keep to the side of the falling tree. When the tree starts to fall, withdraw the bar, shut off the engine and walk away on the preplanned escape path. Watch out for falling limbs.

WARNING

Be extremely careful with partially fallen trees which are poorly supported. When the tree hangs or for some other reason does not fall completely, set the saw aside and pull the tree down with a cable winch, block and tackle or tractor. If you try to cut it down with your saw, you may be injured.

MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND STORING

Maintenance, replacement, or repair of the emission control devices and systems may be performed by any nonroad engine repair establishment or individual. However, if you make a warranty claim for a component which has not been serviced or maintained properly or if nonapproved replacement parts were used, STIHL may deny coverage.

WARNING

Use only identical STIHL replacement parts for maintenance and repair. Use of non-STIHL parts may cause serious or fatal injury.

Strictly follow the maintenance and repair instructions in the appropriate section of your instruction manual. Please refer to the maintenance chart in this manual.

WARNING

Always stop the engine and make sure that the cutting tool is stopped before doing any maintenance or repair work or cleaning the power tool.

WARNING

Do not attempt any maintenance or repair work not described in your instruction manual. Have such work performed by your STIHL servicing dealer only. For example, if improper tools are used to remove the flywheel or if an improper tool is used to hold the flywheel in order to remove the clutch, structural damage to the flywheel could occur and could subsequently cause the flywheel to burst.

Wear gloves when handling or performing maintenance on saw chains.

WARNING

Use the specified spark plug and make sure it and the ignition lead are always clean and in good condition. Always press spark plug boot snugly onto spark plug terminal of the proper size. (Note: If terminal has detachable SAE adapter

nut, it must be securely attached.) A loose connection between spark plug terminal and the ignition wire connector in the boot may create arcing that could ignite combustible fumes and cause a fire.

WARNING

Never test the ignition system with the spark plug boot removed from the spark plug or with a removed spark plug, since uncontained sparking may cause a fire.

WARNING

Do not operate your power tool if the muffler is damaged, missing or modified. An improperly maintained muffler will increase the risk of fire and hearing loss. Your muffler is equipped with a spark-arresting screen to reduce the risk of fire; never operate your power tool if the screen is missing, damaged or clogged. Remember that the risk of a brush or forest fire is greater in hot or dry weather.

In California, it is a violation of § 4442 or § 4443 of the Public Resources Code to use or operate gasoline-powered tools on forest-covered, brush-covered or grass-covered land unless the engine's exhaust system is equipped with a complying spark arrester that is maintained in effective working order. The owner/operator of this product is responsible for properly maintaining the spark arrester. Other states or governmental entities/agencies, such as the U.S. Forest Service, may have similar requirements. Contact your local fire agency or forest service for the laws or regulations relating to fire protection requirements.

Keep the chain, bar and sprocket clean; replace worn sprockets or chains. Keep the chain sharp. You can spot a dull chain when easy-to-cut wood becomes hard to cut and burn marks appear on the wood. Keep the chain at proper tension.

Tighten all nuts, bolts and screws except the carburetor adjustment screws after each use.

WARNING

In order for the chain brake on your STIHL chain saw to properly perform its function of reducing the risk of kickback and other injuries, it must be properly maintained. Like an automobile brake, a chain saw chain brake incurs wear each time it is engaged.

The amount of wear will vary depending upon usage, conditions under which the saw is used and other factors. Excessive wear will reduce the effectiveness of the chain brake and can render it inoperable.

For the proper and effective operation of the chain brake, the brake band and clutch drum must be kept free of dirt, grease and other foreign matter which may reduce friction of the band on the drum.

For these reasons, each STIHL chain saw should be returned to trained personnel such as your STIHL servicing dealer for periodic inspection and servicing of the brake system according to the following schedule:

Heavy usage – every three months,
Moderate usage – twice a year,
Occasional usage – annually.

The chain saw should also be returned immediately for maintenance whenever the brake system cannot be thoroughly cleaned or there is a change in its operating characteristics.

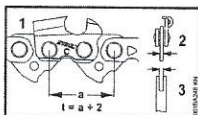
For any maintenance of the emission control system please refer to the maintenance chart and to the limited warranty statement near the end of the instruction manual.

Do not clean your machine with a pressure washer. The solid jet of water may damage parts of the machine.

Store chain saw in a dry place and away from children. Before storing for longer than a few days, always empty the fuel tank (see chapter "Storing the Machine" in the instruction manual).

Cutting Attachment

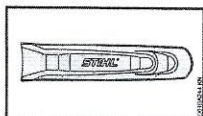
A cutting attachment consists of the saw chain, guide bar and chain sprocket. The cutting attachment that comes standard is designed to exactly match the chain saw.



- The pitch (1) of the saw chain (1), chain sprocket and the nose sprocket of the Rotomatic guide bar must match.
- The drive link gauge (2) of the saw chain (1) must match the groove width of the guide bar (3).

If non-matching components are used, the cutting attachment may be damaged beyond repair after a short period of operation.

Chain scabbard



Your saw comes standard with a chain scabbard that matches the cutting attachment.

If you use guide bars of different lengths on the saw, the length of the chain scabbard must be matched to the guide bar to reduce the risk of injury. It should cover the full length of the guide bar.

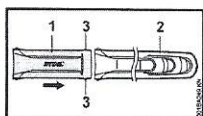
The length of the matching guide bars is marked on the side of the chain scabbard.

Chain scabbard extensions

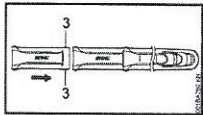
One chain scabbard extension is required for guide bars longer than 35.4 in (90 cm). Two extensions are required for guide bars longer than 47.2 in (120 cm).

Depending on original equipment, the chain scabbard extension either comes with the machine or is available as a special accessory.

Fitting chain scabbard extension



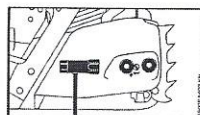
- Push the chain scabbard extension (1) and chain scabbard (2) together, making sure the locking tabs (3) engage in the chain scabbard



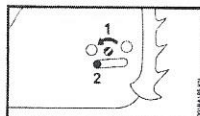
- If more than one chain scabbard extension is required, push the second chain scabbard extension and the first chain scabbard extension together, making sure the locking tabs (3) engage in the first chain scabbard extension

Mounting the Bar and Chain

Removing the chain sprocket cover

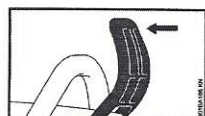


- Rotate the captive nuts counterclockwise until they hang loosely in the sprocket cover.
- Remove the sprocket cover with captive nuts.



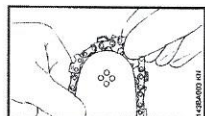
- Turn the screw (1) counterclockwise until the tensioner slide (2) butts against the left end of the housing slot.

Disengaging the chain brake



- Pull the hand guard towards the front handle until there is an audible click – the chain brake is disengaged.

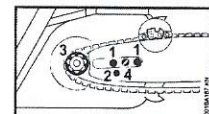
Fitting the chain



WARNING

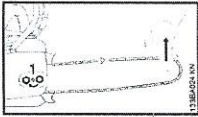
Wear work gloves to protect your hands from the sharp cutters.

- Fit the chain – start at the bar nose.



- Fit the guide bar over the sluds (1) – the cutting edges on the top of the bar must point to the right.
- Engage the peg of the tensioner slide in the locating hole (2) – place the chain over the sprocket (3) at the same time.
- Turn the tensioning screw (4) clockwise until there is very little chain sag on the underside of the bar – and the drive link tangs are engaged in the bar groove.
- Refit the sprocket cover and tighten the nuts only moderately by hand (they are finally tightened after the saw chain is tensioned).
- Go to chapter on "Tensioning the Saw Chain"

Tensioning the Chain



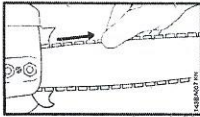
Retensioning during cutting work:

- Shut off the engine.
- Loosen the nuts.
- Hold the bar nose up.
- Use a screwdriver to turn the tensioning screw (1) clockwise until the chain fits snugly against the underside of the bar.
- While still holding the bar nose up, tighten down the nuts firmly.
- Go to "Checking Chain Tension".

A new chain has to be retensioned more often than one that has been in use for some time.

- Check chain tension frequently – see chapter on "Operating Instructions".

Checking Chain Tension



- Shut off the engine.
- Wear work gloves to protect your hands.
- The chain must fit snugly against the underside of the bar and it must still be possible to pull the chain along the bar by hand.
- If necessary, retension the chain.

A new chain has to be retensioned more often than one that has been in use for some time.

- Check chain tension frequently – see chapter on "Operating Instructions".

Fuel

This engine is certified to operate on unleaded gasoline and the STIHL two-stroke engine oil at a mix ratio of 50:1. Your engine requires a mixture of high-quality gasoline and two-stroke air cooled engine oil.

Use mid-grade unleaded gasoline with a minimum octane rating of 89 ((R+M)/2) and no more than 10% ethanol content.

Fuel with a lower octane rating may increase engine temperatures. This, in turn, increases the risk of piston seizure and damage to the engine.

The chemical composition of the fuel is also important. Some fuel additives not only detrimentally affect elastomers (carburetor diaphragms, oil seals, fuel lines, etc.), but magnesium castings and catalytic converters as well. This could cause running problems or even damage the engine. For this reason STIHL recommends that you use only high-quality unleaded gasoline!

Gasoline with an ethanol content of more than 10% can cause running problems and major damage in engines and should not be used.

For further details, see www.STIHLusa.com/ethanol

The ethanol content in gasoline affects engine running speed – it may be necessary to readjust the carburetor if you use fuels with various ethanol contents.

WARNING

To reduce the risk of personal injury from loss of control and/or contact with the running cutting tool, do not use your unit with incorrect idle adjustment. At correct idle speed, the cutting tool should not move.

If your power tool shows an incorrect idle adjustment, have your STIHL dealer check your power tool and make proper adjustments and repairs.

The idle speed and maximum speed of the engine change if you switch from a fuel with a certain ethanol content to another fuel with a much higher or lower ethanol content.

This problem can be avoided by always using fuel with the same ethanol content.

Use only STIHL two-stroke engine oil or equivalent high-quality two-stroke engine oils that are designed for use only in air cooled two-cycle engines.

We recommend STIHL HP Ultra 2-Cycle Engine Oil since it is specially formulated for use in STIHL engines.

Do not use BIA or TCW rated (two-stroke water cooled) mix oils or other mix oils that state they are for use in both water cooled and air cooled engines (e.g., outboard motors, snowmobiles, chain saws, mopeds, etc.).

WARNING

Take care when handling gasoline. Avoid direct contact with the skin and avoid inhaling fuel vapor. When filling at the pump, first remove the container from your vehicle and place the

container on the ground before filling. To reduce the risk of sparks from static discharge and resulting fire and/or explosion, do not fill fuel containers that are sitting in or on a vehicle or trailer.

The container should be kept tightly closed in order to limit the amount of moisture that gets into the mixture.

The machine's fuel tank should be cleaned as necessary.

STIHL MotoMix

STIHL recommends the use of STIHL MotoMix. STIHL MotoMix has a high octane rating and ensures that you always use the right mix ratio.

STIHL MotoMix uses STIHL HP Ultra two-stroke engine oil suited for high performance engines.

For further details, see www.STIHLusa.com/ethanol

Fuel mix ages

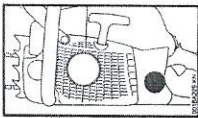
Only mix sufficient fuel for a few days work, not to exceed 30 days of storage. Store in approved fuel-containers only. When mixing, pour oil into the container first, and then add gasoline. Close the container and shake it vigorously by hand to ensure proper mixing of the oil with the fuel.

Gasoline US gal.	Oil (STIHL 50:1 or equivalent high-quality oils) US fl. oz.
1	2.6
2 1/2	6.4
5	12.8

Fueling



Preparations



- Before fueling, clean the filler cap and the area around it to ensure that no dirt falls into the tank.

Always thoroughly shake the mixture in the canister before fueling your machine.

- Position the machine so that the filler cap is facing up.

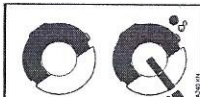
WARNING

In order to reduce the risk of fire and other personal injury from escaping gas vapor and fumes, remove the fuel filler cap carefully so as to allow any pressure build-up in the tank to release slowly.

Filler cap markings

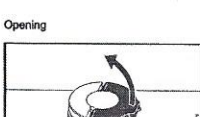
Filler caps and fuel tanks may be marked in different ways.

Depending on the version, your unit may be equipped with a filler cap and fuel tank with or without symbols.



Left: Filler cap without symbols.
Right: Filler cap with markings and symbols on cap and tank.

Filler cap without symbols

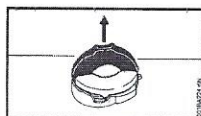


Opening

- Raise handle.



- Twist filler cap counterclockwise (approx. 1/4 turn).

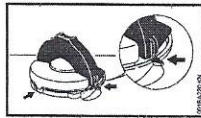


- Remove the filler cap.

Refueling

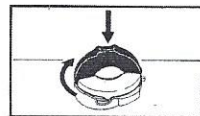
Take care not to spill fuel while fueling and do not overfill the tank – leave approx. 1/2" (13 mm) air space.

Closing

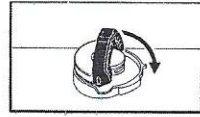


Handle is in an upright position:

- Insert the cap – positioning marks on the cap and the fuel tank opening must line up.
- The cap should drop fully into the opening in this position.

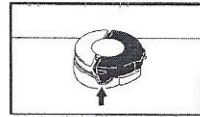


- Push the filler cap down and twist it clockwise until it engages.

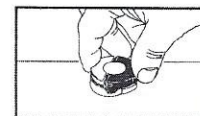


- Flip the handle down.

Checking for proper closure



- The lug on the grip must engage entirely in the recess (arrow) and the grip must lie completely flush with the top of the cap.



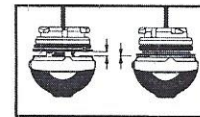
- Grip the cap and check for tightness.

- If the cap can be moved, it is not properly installed.

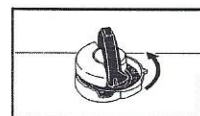
Misalignment of the cap parts

- If the cap does not drop fully into the opening when the positioning marks line up and/or if the cap does not tighten properly when twisted, the base of the cap may be rotated out of position vis-à-vis the top.

- Such misalignment can result from handling, cleaning or an improper attempt at tightening.

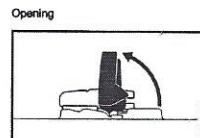


- Left: Base of improperly aligned cap (with open space)
- Right: Base of cap correctly positioned for installation

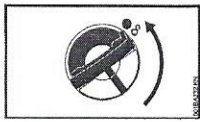


- To correct a misalignment, turn the cap (with the grip up) until it drops fully into the tank opening.
- Twist the cap counterclockwise as far as it will go (approx. 1/4 turn) – this will twist the base of the cap into the correct position.
- Twist the cap clockwise, closing it normally – see the sections "Closing" and "Checking for proper closure."
- If your cap still does not tighten properly, it may be damaged or broken; immediately stop use of the unit and take it to your authorized STIHL dealer for repair.

Filler cap with markings and symbols



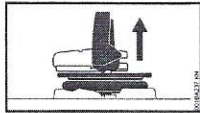
- Raise handle.



- Twist filler cap counterclockwise (approx. 1/4 turn).



Markings on filler cap and housing must align.



- Remove the filler cap.

Refueling

Take care not to spill fuel while fueling and do not overfill the tank – leave approx. 1/2" (13 mm) air space.

Closing



Handle is in an upright position:

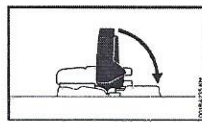
- Position filler cap – markings on filler cap and housing must align.
- Push the filler cap down as far as it will go.



- Push the filler cap down and twist it clockwise until it engages.



Then the markings on filler cap and housing will align.



- Flip the handle down.

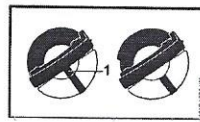


Filler cap is now closed.

If the filler cap will not engage into the tank housing

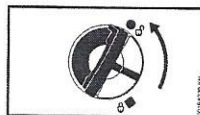
The base of the filler cap is rotated in relation to the upper part.

- Look at the black alignment marks on the top of the filler cap.



Left: Base of filler cap is rotated – interior marking (1) is aligned with the exterior marking.

Right: Base of filler cap is in the correct position – interior marking is below the clip. It does not align with the exterior marking.



- With the filler cap in the filling neck, twist it counterclockwise until it drops into its seat.

- Continue to twist the filler cap counterclockwise (approx. 1/4 turn) – this will twist the base of the cap into the correct position.

- While pushing down on the cap, twist the filler cap clockwise and close it – see section "Closing."

Chain Lubricant

For automatic and reliable lubrication of the chain and guide bar – use only an environmentally compatible quality chain and bar lubricant. Rapidly biodegradable STIHL BioPlus is recommended.

NOTICE

Biological chain oil must be resistant to aging (e.g. STIHL BioPlus), since it will otherwise quickly turn to resin. This results in hard deposits that are difficult to remove, especially in the area of the chain drive and chain. It may even cause the oil pump to seize.

The service life of the chain and guide bar depends on the quality of the lubricant. It is therefore essential to use only a specially formulated chain lubricant.

WARNING

Do not use waste oil. Renewed contact with waste oil can cause skin cancer. Moreover, waste oil is environmentally harmful.

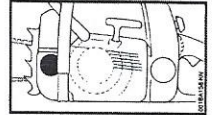
NOTICE

Waste oil does not have the necessary lubricating properties and is unsuitable for chain lubrication.

Filling Chain Oil Tank



Preparations



- Thoroughly clean the oil filler cap and the area around it to ensure that no dirt falls into the tank.
- Position the machine so that the filler cap is facing up.
- Open the filler cap.

Filling chain oil tank

- Refill the chain oil tank every time you refuel.

Take care not to spill chain oil while refueling and do not overfill the tank.

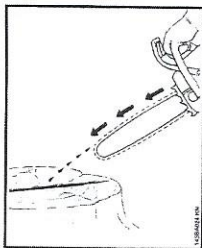
- Close the filler cap.

There must still be a small amount of oil in the oil tank when the fuel tank is empty.

If the oil level in the tank does not go down, the reason may be a fault in the oil supply system: Check chain lubrication, clean the always, contact your dealer

for assistance if necessary STIHL recommends that you have servicing and repair work carried out exclusively by an authorized STIHL servicing dealer.

Checking Chain Lubrication



The saw chain must always throw off a small amount of oil.

NOTICE

Never operate your saw without chain lubrication. If the chain runs dry, the whole cutting attachment will be irretrievably damaged within a very short time. Always check chain lubrication and the oil level in the tank before starting work.

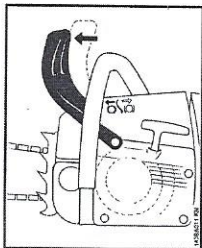
Every new chain has to be broken in for about 2 to 3 minutes.

After breaking in the chain, check chain tension and adjust if necessary – see "Checking Chain Tension".

Chain Brake



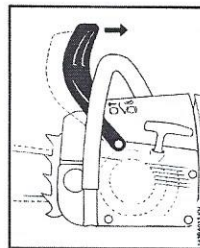
Locking chain with chain brake



- in an emergency
- when starting
- at idling speed

The chain is stopped and locked when the hand guard is pushed toward the bar nose by the left hand – or when brake is activated by inertia in certain kickback situations.

Releasing the chain brake



- Pull the hand guard back toward the front handle.

NOTICE

Always disengage chain brake before accelerating engine and before starting cutting work. The only exception to this rule is when you check operation of the chain brake.

High revs with the chain brake engaged (chain locked) will quickly damage the powerhead and chain drive (clutch, chain brake).

The chain brake is designed to be activated also by the inertia of the front hand guard

if the forces are sufficiently high. The hand guard is accelerated toward the bar nose – even if your left hand is not behind the hand guard, e.g. during a

feeling out. The chain brake will operate only if it has been properly maintained and the hand guard has not been modified in any way.

Check operation of chain brake

Before starting work: Run engine at idle speed, engage the chain brake (push hand guard toward bar nose). Accelerate up to full throttle for no more than 3 seconds – the chain must not rotate. The hand guard must be free from dirt and move freely.

Chain brake maintenance

The chain brake is subject to normal wear. It is necessary to have it serviced and maintained regularly by trained personnel, such as your STIHL servicing dealer, at the following intervals:

- Full-time usage: every 3 months
- Part-time usage: every 6 months
- Occasional usage: every 12 months

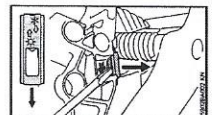
Winter Operation



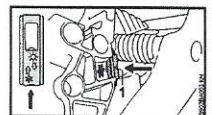
Preheating the carburetor

- Remove the shroud – see "Shroud"

At temperatures below +50°F (+10°C):



- Use the combination wrench or a screwdriver to ease the shutter out of the summer position.



- Refit the shutter the other way round in the winter position – the arrow points to the symbol ❄ – the shutter must snap into position.

The arrowhead (1) is visible in the winter position.

- Install the shroud – see "Shroud".

Heated air is now drawn in from around the cylinder to warm the carburetor – this helps prevent carburetor icing.

At temperatures above +70°F (+20°C):

- Always return the shutter to the summer position (☉) to avoid engine running problems and overheating.

At temperatures below 14°F (-10°C)

It is advisable to fit the "cover plate" kit (special accessory) if you use your saw in extremely cold conditions (temperatures below 14°F (-10°C), in powder or drifting snow).

If idling behavior is erratic or acceleration is poor:

- Turn the low speed screw (L) 1/4 of a turn counterclockwise.

It is usually necessary to change the setting of the idle speed screw (LA) after every correction to the low speed screw (L) – see "Adjusting the Carburetor".

- If your saw is very cold (frost or ice on machine), start the engine and keep it at a high idle speed (with chain brake disengaged) until it reaches normal operating temperature.

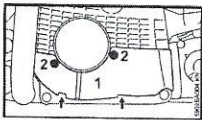
Cover plate

The cover plate (special accessory) helps prevent snow being sucked into the machine.

When the cover plate is fitted, the shutter must be in the winter position.

In the event of engine running problems, first check that conditions for use of the cover plate still apply.

Fitting the cover plate



- Place the cover plate (1) in position, engage the two tabs (arrows), and secure it with the screws (2).

Starting / Stopping the Engine

Versions with Easy2Start

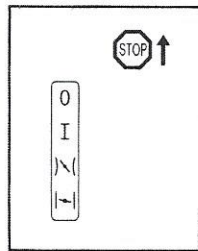
WARNING

This machine is extremely simple and easy to start, even for children.

To reduce the risk of serious or fatal injury:

- do not allow children or other unauthorized persons to attempt to start or otherwise use the machine
- never allow children or unauthorized persons access to the machine
- never leave the machine unattended while working or during work breaks
- after work, store in a safe, secure location out of the reach of children and other unauthorized persons

Positions of Master Control lever



Stop 0 – engine off – the ignition is switched off.

Normal run position I – engine runs or can fire.

Starting throttle: N – this position is used to start a warm engine. The Master Control lever moves to the normal run position as soon as the throttle trigger is squeezed.

Choke shutter closed N – this position is used to start a cold engine.

Setting the Master Control lever

To move the Master Control lever from the normal run position (I) to choke closed (N), press down the throttle trigger lockout and squeeze the throttle

trigger at the same time and hold them in that position – now set the Master Control lever.

To select the starting throttle position (N), move the Master Control lever to choke closed (N) first, then push it into the starting throttle position (N).

The Master Control lever must be in the choke closed position (N) before it can be moved to the starting throttle position (N).

The Master Control lever moves from the starting throttle position (N) to the normal run position (I) when you press down the throttle trigger lockout and flip the throttle trigger at the same time.

To switch off the engine, move the Master Control lever to Stop 0.

Choke shutter closed (N)

- If the engine is cold
- If the engine stalls when you open the throttle after starting.
- If the fuel tank was run until empty (engine stopped).

Starting throttle position (N)

- If the engine is warm, i.e. if it has been running for about one minute.
- When the engine begins to fire.
- After clearing a flooded combustion chamber.

Fuel pump

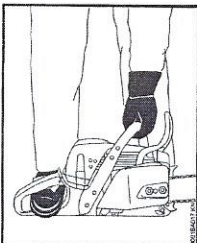
Press the fuel pump bulb several times – even if the bulb is already filled with fuel –

- When starting for the first time.
- If the fuel tank was run until empty (engine stopped).

Holding the saw

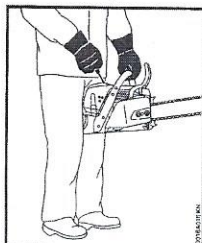
There are two ways of holding the saw when starting.

On the ground



- Place your saw on the ground. Make sure you have a firm footing – check that the chain is not touching any object or the ground.
- Hold the saw firmly on the ground with your left hand on the front handle – your thumb should be under the handle.
- Put your right foot into the rear handle and press down.

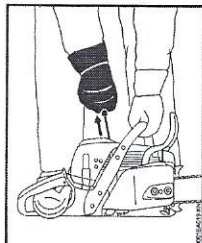
Between knees or thighs



- Hold the rear handle tightly between your legs, just above the knees.
- Hold the front handle firmly with your left hand – your thumb should be under the handle.

Starting

Standard versions



- Pull the starter grip slowly with your right hand until you feel it engage – and then give it a brisk strong pull and push down the front handle at the same time. Do not pull out the starter rope to full length – it might otherwise break. Do not let the starter grip snap back. Guide it slowly back into the housing so that the starter rope can rewind properly.

Machines without additional manual fuel pump: If the engine is new or after a long out-of-service period, it may be necessary to pull the starter rope several times to prime the fuel system.

Versions with Easy2Start

The Easy2Start stores the energy required to start the saw. For this reason there may be a delay of a few seconds between cranking the engine and it actually starting.

There are two ways of starting machines with Easy2Start:

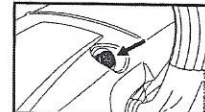
- Hold the starter grip with your right hand and pull it out slowly and steadily – or – hold the starter grip with your right hand and give it several short pulls, using only a short length of rope for each pull.
- Push down the handle while cranking. Do not pull out the rope to its full length – it might otherwise break.
- Do not let the starter grip snap back. Guide it slowly back into the housing so that the starter rope can rewind properly.

Starting the saw

WARNING

Bystanders must be well clear of the general work area of the saw.

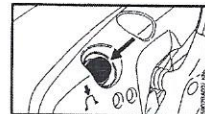
Versions with decompression valve



- Press in the button to open the decompression valve.

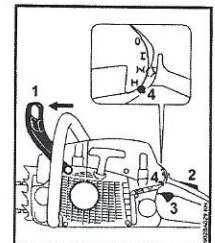
The decompression valve closes as soon as the engine fires. For this reason you must press in the button before each starting attempt.

Versions with manual fuel pump



- Press the fuel pump bulb at least five times – even if the bulb is already filled with fuel.

All models



- Push the hand guard (1) forward – the chain is locked.

- Press down the throttle trigger lockout (2) and pull the throttle trigger (3) at the same time. Set Master Control lever (4) to:

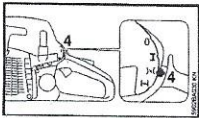
Choke shutter closed (N)

- If the engine is cold (also use this position if the engine stopped when you opened the throttle after starting)

Starting throttle position (N)

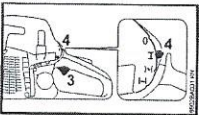
- If the engine is warm, i.e. if it has been running for about one minute.
- Hold and start your saw as described.

When the engine begins to fire:

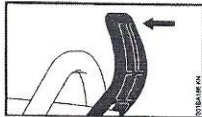


- Set the Master Control lever (4) to the starting throttle position (N).
- Press the button to open the decompression valve (depending on model).
- Hold and start your saw as described.

As soon as the engine runs



- Press down the throttle trigger lockout and the big throttle trigger (3) – the Master Control lever (4) moves to the run position I and the engine settles down to idling speed.



- Pull the hand guard back toward the front handle.

NOTICE

Always disengage chain brake before accelerating the engine. High revs with the chain brake engaged (chain locked) will quickly damage the clutch and chain brake.

At very low outside temperatures:

- Allow engine to warm up at part throttle.
- Change over to winter operation if necessary – see "Winter Operation".

Stopping the engine

- Move the Master Control lever to the stop position (0).

If you have moved the Master Control lever from the starting throttle position (N) to the stop position (0) – press down the throttle trigger lockout and squeeze the throttle trigger at the same time.

If the engine does not start

If you did not move the Master Control lever from the choke shutter closed position (N) to the starting throttle position (N) quickly enough, the engine may be flooded.

- Move the Master Control lever to the stop position (0).
- Remove the spark plug – see "Spark Plug".
- Dry the spark plug.
- Crank the engine several times with the starter to clear the combustion chamber.
- Refit the spark plug – see "Spark Plug".
- Set Master Control lever to the starting throttle position (N) – even if the engine is cold.
- Press the button to open the decompression valve (depending on model).
- Now start the engine.

Operating Instructions

During the break-in period

A factory new machine should not be run at high revs (full throttle off load) for the first three tank fillings. This avoids unnecessarily high loads during the break-in period. As all moving parts have to bed in during the break-in period, the frictional resistances in the shortblock are greater during this period. The engine develops its maximum power after about 5 to 15 tank fillings.

During work

NOTICE

Do not make the mixture leaner to achieve an apparent increase in power – this could damage the engine – see "Adjusting the Carburetor".

NOTICE

Open the throttle only when the chain brake is off. Running the engine at high revs with the chain brake engaged (chain locked) will quickly damage the shortblock and chain drive (clutch, chain brake).

Check chain tension frequently

A new saw chain must be retensioned more frequently than one that has been in use already for an extended period.

Chain cold

Tension is correct when the chain fits snugly against the underside of the bar but can still be pulled along the bar by hand. Retension if necessary – see "Tensioning the Saw Chain".

Chain at operating temperature

The chain stretches and begins to sag. The drive links must not come out of the bar groove on the underside of the bar – the chain may otherwise jump off the bar. Retension the chain – see "Tensioning the Saw Chain".

NOTICE

The chain contracts as it cools down. If it is not slackened off, it can damage the crankshaft and bearings.

After a long period of full-throttle operation

After a long period of full-throttle operation, allow engine to run for a while at idle speed so that the heat in the engine can be dissipated by flow of cooling air. This protects engine-mounted components (ignition, carburetor) from thermal overload.

After finishing work

- Slacken off the chain if you have retensioned it at operating temperature during work.

NOTICE

Always slacken off the chain again after finishing work. The chain contracts as it cools down. If it is not slackened off, it can damage the crankshaft and bearings.

Short-term storage

Wait for engine to cool down. Keep the machine with a full tank of fuel in a dry place, well away from sources of ignition, until you need it again.

Long-term storage

See "Storing the machine"

Oil Quantity Control

Adjustable flow oil pump is a special option.

Different quantities of oil are required for different bar lengths, types of wood and cutting techniques.



Use the adjusting screw (1) (on underside of machine) to vary the oil feed rate as required.

Ematic position (E), medium oil flow rate

- Turn the adjusting screw to "E" (Ematic position).

To increase oil feed –

- Turn the adjusting screw clockwise.

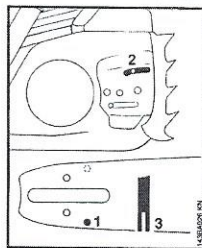
To reduce oil feed –

- Turn the adjusting screw counterclockwise.

NOTICE

The chain must always be wetted with a film of lubricant.

Taking Care of the Guide Bar



Chain type	Chain pitch	Minimum groove depth
Picco	1/4" P	0.16" (4.0 mm)
Rapid	1/4"	0.16" (4.0 mm)
Picco	3/8" P	0.20" (5.0 mm)
Rapid	3/8"; 0.325"	0.24" (6.0 mm)
Rapid	0.404"	0.28" (7.0 mm)

If groove depth is less than specified:

- Replace the guide bar.

The drive link tangs will otherwise scrape along the bottom of the groove – the cutters and tie straps will not ride on the bar rails.

- Turn the guide bar over – every time you sharpen the chain and every time you replace the chain – this helps avoid one-sided wear, especially at the nose and underside of the bar.
- Regularly clean the oil inlet hole (1), the oilway (2) and the bar groove (3).
- Measure the groove depth – with the scale on the filing gauge (special accessory) – in the area used most for cutting.